World meet on computer VAN

2114. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some world meet on computer VAN was held at Bombay during November, 1991;

(b) if so, details of the said meet with issues discussed therein;

(c) the amount spent on holding the meet;

(d whether it is a fact that a large number of countries participated in the meet; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An International Conference on "Computer & Communication—Value Added Services" was held during November, 20—22, 1991 at Bombay. The conference was organised by the publisher of a journal, "Electronics Today". The conferenie was sponsored by the United Nations Educational. Social and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

The topic of the Conference was covered in three different sessions, namely, Value Added Network (VAN) Standards. VAN Systems and VAN Services.

(c) It is understood from the organiser that the total expenditure incurred for holding the Conference was Rs. 4 lakhs approximately, the cost of travel and per diem in India for all the foreign delegates was met entirely by UNESCO.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The conference was attended by nearly 200 delegates including specialists from USA, USSR, France, Hong Kong, Iran Pakistan: Afghanistan Bangla Desh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Maldives in addition to participants from India.

Colour picture tube unit at Vijayawad

2115. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI Will the PRIME MINISTER be please to state:

(a) whether Government have received any application from a private agency t set-up a colour picture tube uni a Vijayawada; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and th progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : (a) According to the present Industrial Policy, no industrial licence is required to set up a colour picture tube unit. No application from any private agency to set up a colour picture tube unit at Vijayawada has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Export of fruit and vegetable products

2116. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of Fruits and Vegetable Products exported during the last two years;

(b) whether the quantity of the exports of Fruits and Vegetable Products has been increasing during this period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what steps Government propose to take to increase the exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) The quantity and value of fruit and vegetable products reported during the last two years is as follows:—

Product	Quantity (MTS)		Value (Rs. lakhs)	
	1989-90	1990-91	1989-90	1990-91
Mango Pulp	16195	15760	1955·00	2351·00
Dehy. Veg.	1984	908	1411·00	1252·00
Pickles & Chutneys	8443	6349	1210·00	1112·00
Other pro. fruits & vegetables	29106	9499	3145·00	2091·00
TOTAL	42951	32516	7721·00	6806·00

The exports of fruits and vegetable products increased during the year 1989-90 but decreased during the year 1990-91 which was partly due to the effects of the Gulf war.

(d) Recently Government has liberalised the trade policy for augmentation of such exports. The exchange rate adjustment rupee and the introduction of tradable Exim Scrips ane expected to make Indian Food Products more competitive in the world market. The Government is also encouraging setting up fruits and vegetable processing units under 100 per cent Export Oriented Units scheme under which various concessions are given.

Entry of multinational companies in Soft drink/potatochips industry

2117. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reconsider its decision to let multinationals enter soft drinks and potatochips manufacturing industries;

(b) whether any multinational fast food industry has been permitted to manufacture cereals in India; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to revoke the permit and allow only Indian Industries in these areas where such an expertise is available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Government has already announced the new Industrial Policy on 24 July, 1991. Subsequently, Government issued a Press Note 10 indicating the items, including some consumer goods, for which automatic approval for foreign investment and technology proposals upto 51 per cent of foreign equity is to be allowed. Other foreign investntment proposals which are not eligible for automatic approvals are to be considered on merits.

(b) In the light of the new Industrial Policy, Reserve Bank of India has approved the proposal of M/s. Kelloggs of USA to enter into financial/technical collaboration with a new undertaking i.e. M/s. Kellogg (I) Limited, under automatic scheme for setting up a food processing unit for manufacture of cereal products.

(c) Does not arise.